GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2302
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2008
UN REPORT ON RURAL SANITATION PROJECTS
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the main points mentioned in the UN Report on sanitation in India;

(b) whether the United Nations has appreciated some States for making good progress in providing access to sanitation facilities in the rural areas in pursuance of the Millennium Development goals;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the United Nations has agreed to provide help and assistance to some States particularly Karnataka for providing sanitation facilities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU)

(a): The United Nations brings out a report called `Human Development Report` (HDR) on a different theme every year, covering the whole world. The HDR for 2006 was titled `Beyond Scarcity: Power, Poverty and the global water crisis`, which inter-alia covered the status of sanitation in the world. The Report states that safe water and sanitation are fundamental to human development. When people are deprived in these areas, they face diminished opportunities to realize their potential as human beings. The Report also documents the systematic violation of the right to water, identifies the underlying causes of the crisis and sets out an agenda for change.

(b) & (c): The mechanism in the United Nations for monitoring Millennium Development Goal for Water Supply and Sanitation is the Joint Monitoring Programme, managed by WHO and UNICEF. The last global report on the issue was brought out in 2006, called `Meeting the MDG drinking water and sanitation target: the urban and rural challenge of the decade.` This report does not mention any state of India specifically.

(d) & (e): There is no agreement with United Nations for providing sanitation facilities.